



NEWS



FROM

VINTAGE WINGS OF CANADA

Commemorate, Educate, Inspire

www.vintagewings.ca

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MAY 2019

Authors: VWC Board of Directors, Lucie Lacroix

Translation: Richard Lacroix and Lucie Lacroix

Welcome to the 2019 flying season at Vintage Wings of Canada. It will be another exciting time of activity including Warbird Universities, Fly-In Breakfasts, Commemoration event for the 75th Anniversary of 6 June 1944 – D-Day, the Royal Air Force Red Arrows Demo Team, and the AERO Gatineau–Ottawa 2019 Air Show, just to name a few.

There will be plenty of opportunities for aviation enthusiasts to take part in these activities as a team member or spectator. As always, you are an integral part of Vintage Wings, and we would like to hear from you on ideas or suggestions.

Let's take a moment to look back and highlight some of the past activities since our last newsletter.

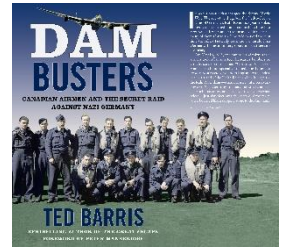
- During the 2018 summer months, we hosted both the B-29 "FIFI" and the B-25 Bombers. Both events were well received.
- On September 15th, 2018, we hosted the AERO Gatineau-Ottawa Air Show, and the event had a great turnout. It bodes well for this year's 3-day event!
- The Battle of Britain National Ceremony was held here the following day, on 16 September. This year's ceremony marked the 78th anniversary of the Battle of Britain. Always a nice ceremony to witness.
- To highlight the Armistice 100th anniversary, we opened the hangar doors and had a commemorative event on Saturday, 10 November, where visitors had an opportunity to see a display of WWI artifacts provided by Dwayne Hordij, a display from the [Roy Brown Society](#), and by Alec Simpson who displayed his grandfather, Sgt. William D. Sutherland's uniform and artifacts from the 43rd Battalion Cameron Highlanders of Canada (Winnipeg).
- On Saturday 8 December, two events concluded 2018:
 - The members Annual General Meeting, where new members were elected to the VWC Board of Directors:
 - Don Buchan – Chairman
 - Stephan King – Director
 - David McColl – Director
 - Michael Ruddick - Director
 - Alec Simpson – Director
 - Michael Virr – Director
 - Andrew Wilson – Director
 - The members' annual Christmas party, during which Santa came for a visit.



- To start 2019, Mr. Tim Dubé was at the VWC hangar on Saturday 12 January, for a presentation on the Battle of Britain as seen through the eyes of William Lidstone “Willie” McKnight (RAF No. 242 “All Canadian” Squadron), one of the most outstanding Canadian fighter pilot of the Battle of Britain and the Second World War.
- On 8 February, we welcomed the author Ted Barris for a presentation of his most recent book, *Dam Busters, Canadian Airmen and the Secret Raid against Nazi Germany*. With such an engaging speaker, we had a very nice evening! (*Dam Busters* is available on [Amazon](#) and [Indigo](#).)



- More recently, on Friday 29 March, we invited VWC volunteer pilot, Dave Hadfield, for an evening of music and storytelling. Dave presented songs from his most recent CD, “Climbin’ Away, Songs from the Sky”, using photos and videos. Dave’s CDs are only available through his [website](#) and from the stage.



We would also like to provide more detail on the following activities over the past few months:

Royal Air Force 100th Anniversary

by Michael Virr

Vintage Wings of Canada hosted a group of students from Halifax this past August. The visit was organized by the Rotary Club of Halifax, with the assistance of the [Rotary Club of Ottawa](#). The half-day program was part of RAF100, the celebration of the 100th anniversary of the founding of the RAF. The program featured the long-standing close ties between the RAF and Canada’s RCAF.



The Royal Air Force (RAF) celebrated its centenary in 2018. Vintage Wings of Canada (VWC) partnered with RAF 100 and the British High Commission to celebrate the anniversary, and to mark the years of cooperation between the RAF and the Royal Canadian Air Force (RCAF).

The students that visited the VWC facility were offered a tour of the hangar, attended presentations by RAF officers, VWC volunteers, and heard from Major Stephenie Cadieux, RCAF, who made a short presentation on her career in the air force. The students were offered lunch.

During lunch, the students were treated to a visit by retired Col. Chris Hadfield, former commander of the Space Station. Col. Hadfield spoke to the students and had lunch with them. Col. Hadfield happened to be at the hangar that day being ‘checked out’ on the Harvard.

A second event was organized in November in collaboration with the Rotary Club of Ottawa to bring a group of students from Operation Come Home. These students are in the process of completing their secondary school diploma through this charitable organization.

We would like to thank the following for making these events possible: Squadron Leader Drew Anderson and his wife Melanie, Squadron Leader Andy Wilson, Commander Neil Marriott, as well as VWC volunteers Don Buchan and Alec Simpson (VWC Board of Directors), Jonathan Edwards (photographer), Dave McColl and his Tow Crew, and Paul Tremblay and the Vintech Aero team (for ensuring aircraft movement), and Michael Virr and his team of tour guides (Claude Brunette, George Mayer, Steve McKenzie, John Crook, Glyn (Taff) Williams, Doug Zahody, Pierre Lapprand, Gavin Milo, Alan Hunt, Paul Gibb and Michael Harrison).

Warbird U

by Allen Granum

The WarbirdU event that we held in October 2018 focused on the FG-1D Corsair. Along with experienced instructor Paul Kissmann, we were incredibly fortunate to have in attendance two veteran Corsair pilots who also participated in the



event, adding in their own first hand experiences. Ron Cooke (89), and Francis Traynor (93) were both kind enough to join us at the hangar and give us a truly human connection to the aircraft. Francis drove up from Montreal with his son and daughter, and Ron flew all the way up from Texas with his daughter! Both brought pictures and items from their service days that made this a one-of-a-kind event.

Ron was surprised that people wanted to hear about his experiences. Their family members commented that they had never seen their fathers participating and sharing their personal

experiences to such a captivated audience. It was great to hear their stories and get these two gentlemen back into the cockpits of the aircraft types they flew in days past. What a great opportunity to commemorate some of the few remaining pilots of this time. WarbirdU's are about so much more than the technical details.



We kicked off the 2019 season of Vintage Wings ground schools with a P-40 Kittyhawk WarbirdU event on Saturday 30 March. We continue to work through the aircraft in the Mike Potter collection and it was time for the P-40 to take the spotlight. The timing of this seemed fitting as the P-40 is currently undergoing an extensive overhaul that will raise it to an even higher standard than it already was. We can't wait to see it in the air again. Instructors Dave Hadfield and Joe Cosmano provided us with all sorts of insider info on this great aircraft.

The next ground school that we have planned is something entirely new and exciting: "An Introduction to Aerobatics". Find out what it takes to transition from a pilot who travels straight and level from point A to point B, to a pilot who travels nowhere, but takes the most interesting, and nauseous, path to get there! Guest instructor Rick Volker will be joining our own Peter Ashwood-Smith (and possibly others), to cover techniques, safety, and aircraft. The event will be held on Saturday, 1 June. Watch the website for the latest news.

In keeping with the great success of last year's F-18 Hornet WarbirdU event, we are actively working with the RCAF to bring in another asset for an open house event this year. If we can get something arranged, we will plan for a ground school event highlighting the aircraft. No firm details to share yet, but think rotary wing. Last year's event was a great way to educate and inspire youth (and the young at heart) about the aircraft in use by our armed forces and potential career paths.

And it doesn't end there! Count on at least 1 or 2 more events before the end of the year. We are still deciding which aircraft to highlight, as well as looking into more unique ground school opportunities relating to other aviation topics and aircraft.

Got an idea/suggestion?

Want to be a volunteer during these ground schools (and get to listen in for free)?

We could ALWAYS use your help for setup and tear down.

A little bit of help goes a long way. Allen would like to build up a team for ground school events to do this on a regular basis about 4 times a year. A great opportunity to get even closer to the people and the aircraft.

EMAIL Allen at: warbirdu@vintagewings.ca

Yellow Wings

by Mike Ruddick



The Yellow Wings program was established in 2011 as a commemoration of the British Commonwealth Air Training Plan (BCATP). As a cross-Canada outreach program, Yellow Wings toured from western Canada through to Québec during the 2011 season, and the Maritime Provinces during the 2012 season.

In 2013, an ambitious program was undertaken to fly Air Cadets aboard Yellow Wings aircraft at summer training camps across Canada. To date, this donor-funded program, which works in cooperation with the RCAF, has given the opportunity to more than 850 young Canadians to experience living history and learn about the contributions of those who served in earlier generations, and the legacy of the BCATP.

The program is led by Mike Ruddick, and pilots include Peter Ashwood-Smith, Rob Barbe, Don Buchan, Kathryn Buchan, Doug Erlandson, Dave Hadfield, George King, Terry Peters, Pete Podebry, Jon Rotondo, and Ed Soye.

The 2018 flying season wrapped-up with a group of 20 Air Cadets from 742 Squadron of Ottawa flying with us in late October. We are now close to finalizing an extension to the Memorandum of Understanding between Vintage Wings and DND to carry the program forward indefinitely.

Model Workshop

by Michael Virr

On 19 January 2019, members of IPMS, Ottawa Chapter, organized a half-day modelling seminar at the VWC hangar. Three modellers from the local chapter led the discussion on the hangar floor, with the vintage warbirds as the backdrop. Twenty participants attended and brought with them a model kit(s), works in progress. Participants included new people to the hobby as well as older modellers who were interested in improving their skills. The group learned about the basics of assembling, painting and decaling plastic models. The presenters brought along completed models as well as their own works in progress to demonstrate how simple techniques can produce a realistic model.

In the afternoon, participants were invited to work on their models. The IPMS members circulated amongst the tables and offered hands-on tips to improve their modelling skills.

Thanks to VWC member Wayne Giles, as well as Benoit Bonnier and Terry Jones for their help in organizing this event. A shout out to Vintage Wings of Canada for offering the use of their facility as a venue, a truly unique experience for the participants.

Vintage Wings Calendar of Upcoming 2019 events

4 May	Tow Crew Training Day
11 May	Volunteer Recruitment Day
1 June	Ground school – Aerobatics
15 June	Pre-Father's Day Fly-In Breakfast & D-Day 75 th anniversary event
TBD in August	Fly-In Breakfast
13 August	Red Arrows visit
6–8 September	AERO Gatineau–Ottawa 2019

Other Aviation Events

27 April	Girls Take Flight , Rockcliffe Flying Club
19 May	Rideau Lakes Flying Club's Spring Fly in
22–25 May	CAHS National Convention & AGM
1–2 June	Air Show and Salon in St-Hubert (Longueuil, QC)
8–9 June	Val-d'Or Air show
8–9 June	Annual Fly-In at Maniwaki Airport
22–23 June	Bagotville International Air Show
12–14 July	National Warplane Museum & Geneseo Airshow
24–25 August	Rivière-du-Loup Air Show
24–25 August	Rochester International Airshow
31 August – 2 September	Canadian International Air Show (CIAS)
20–22 September	Eastern Townships Airshow & Fair , in Bromont, QC
21–22 September	Peterborough Airport's 50th Anniversary Air Show
28–29 September	Fly-In event at ULM Québec in Saint-Cuthbert, QC

Red Arrows Air Show – 13 August 2019 AERO Gatineau–Ottawa 2019 – 6–8 September 2019

by Barry Camm



We will be hosting two exciting air shows this August and September.



On 13 August, the famed Royal Air Force nine plane precision Aerobatic Team, the Red Arrows, will be coming to Gatineau–Ottawa for the first performance of their 6-week North American tour.

The day promises to be very exciting with the Red Arrows in their scarlet BAE Systems Hawk T-1s putting on a thrilling afternoon display along with performances by some other special aircraft.

The 2019 edition of AERO Gatineau-Ottawa promises to be a great experience. This year's show will be spread over 3 days, on 6–7–8 September, and draw spectators from across the National Capital region, Eastern Canada and the United States.

Performances will include the RCAF Snowbirds, the CF-18 Hornet Demo, Vintage Wings of Canada, ACM Warbirds of Canada, thrilling aerobatic performances by Rick Volker and Martin Hivon, static aircraft displays, military re-enactors, just to name a few.

Check out AERO Gatineau–Ottawa on their [website](#), [Facebook page](#) and [Twitter](#) for updates.

Calling on all Volunteers!

For all the volunteers that have given time over the years and laboriously helped with either barrier set-up and takedown, trailer loading, or assisted in the not-so-nice tasks of garbage collection on show day, we have some great news for you! AERO Gatineau–Ottawa has hired a professional company (Miron Group) to take over these tasks. The Miron Group comes highly recommended and has worked with several events including BluesFest, Gatineau Hot-Air Balloon Festival, DragonBoat Festivals. For both Air Show events for this year, and for future shows (we hope!), they will assist in the following:

1. Liaise with the City of Gatineau in obtaining requisite supplies (including steel and wooden barriers, pylons, and all other supplies we've had to order ourselves in the past. They will ensure barrier setup according to our requirements and take them down, reload trailers after the shows.
2. Collection and sorting of garbage on show days, working with the City of Gatineau environmental crews.
3. Assist in air show pairing on-site and off-site, liaising with STO and Gatineau police.

They'll also assist in tent (table/chair supplies) and toilet procurement and have them set up to our requirements.

The Miron Group will alleviate a lot of our (and your) concerns about volunteer tasks and assignments. However, this does not diminish our need for volunteers – specifically in the areas of VIP tent hospitality, access control to VIP, crew tent and media zones, lost and found, and security for both crowd and static aircraft displays. We sincerely hope you'll return as volunteers and invite friends and neighbours to come out to help as well. Your help is essential to ensure a successful show for Vintage Wings and AERO Gatineau–Ottawa.

One more thing this year... all volunteers will be able to get their lunches at the aircrew/re-enactor/media/volunteer tent that will be set up on the east side of the gully. This tent will be catered throughout the day and not accessible to the public, so you'll be able to eat, catch a bit of the show, and perhaps mingle with some aircrew at the same time.

These air shows are one of the highlights of Vintage Wings.

If you wish to be part of these exciting events, please contact Lucie Lacroix at llacroix@vintagewings.ca, or your respective team leads.

Help Wanted

We are still looking for someone who would take the lead of a team that would be in charge of the gardening around the hangar. This team would take care of the weeding and landscaping, as the grass is being mowed by a contractor. If you are interested in being part of this team, contact Lucie Lacroix at llacroix@vintagewings.ca.

Outreach

It is important to note that our website is updated regularly with upcoming events. We encourage you to visit the Foundation's website at www.vintagewings.ca as well as the members' site.

We encourage you to renew your membership and to invite others to be part of our Foundation. For further information, please follow this link: <https://foundation.vintagewings.ca/collections/memberships>, or contact Lucie at llacroix@vintagewings.ca or by phone at 819-669-9603.

VWC has renewed its memberships with Ottawa Tourism (www.ottawatourism.ca) and Tourisme Outaouais (www.tourismeoutaouais.com) again this year. These partners are important and provide an extra outreach to those visiting the National Capital Region.

Recognition



VWC would like to thank each and every one of our volunteers again for their assistance in supporting our various activities. This is your Foundation, and it is your contribution that keeps this team together.

VWC would also like to thank Richard Lacroix and Lucie Lacroix for their help in translating this newsletter, as well as translating and proofreading other published articles in the past months.

